A MESSAGE FROM . . .



TIMOTHY C. BOYCE State Forester

few years ago, an effort began to establish TREASURE Forest landowner chapters in each county across the state. Currently there are 50 county chapters where landowners are working together to promote sound forest management practices through the TREASURE Forest program.

Some of the county chapters have become extremely successful with extensive local memberships providing educational courses for landowners, forestry and wildlife tours, newsletters, web pages, and school programs. One of the most important aspects of the chapters is bringing people together at the grass roots level so they can share information with one another. Mentoring other landowners has a positive impact on landowners through their encouragement and support.

Part of the success of the program has been the involvement of local and state entities that have provided assistance, technical expertise, and resources to assist the chapters. The Alabama Farmers Federation (ALFA), the Alabama Forestry Association, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System have assisted with leadership workshops and training for local chapters. These same agencies, along with Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Alabama Forestry Commission, and timber companies have provided meeting space, literature, technical assistance, and other resources to help chapters meet their goals.

Over 200,000 forest landowners throughout the state are working to keep our forests healthy and productive. These landowners manage their forests not only for themselves but for their children and grandchildren as well. Everyone can take an active role in TREASURE Forest chapters by becoming involved, whether providing resources or volunteering in your county. By working with chapters, we can play a major role to assist our state's landowners in managing their land to ensure that Alabama is made better today and tomorrow through forestry.